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## NOTES AND CORRECTIONS TO A SWEDISH GRAMMAR

For some time I have had the desire to publish certain remarks concerning details in my *Elementary Swedish Grammar* (Chicago, 1914), but I have refrained from doing so, because I did not want to anticipate possible reviewers and thus take away from them points that they might wish to call attention to. As, however, after a lapse of over two years, the book has not to my knowledge been reviewed except in brief general statements, I herewith offer a few notes and corrections in addition to those given on page 322 of the *Grammar* itself. Parenthetically, before proceeding to details, I might announce that during the year 1917 I shall begin the publication in this Journal of a series of studies dealing with present-day Swedish grammar which will make necessary and possible various modifications and the giving of additional and more definite information in not a few matters in our Swedish grammars.

Page 14. The heading of the second column should read "Treated Elsewhere," not "Treated Earlier."

§§ 29—32. My experience has shown that, partly owing to my accidental choice of *brun* as an illustration in § 29, the student easily gets the impression that the common-gender form of adjectives ends in *-n* (as is common in pronouns, etc.; see §§ 30—32).

Page 50. In the note preceding the vocabulary, the plural forms *böcker*, *söner*, and *städer* should be inserted in parentheses after the proper words.

§ 112. Speaking of the genitive of proper names I say: "In writing, however, an apostrophe is very frequently (but less now than formerly) used to indicate the case." Observation during the reading of many recent Swedish books would now lead me to say that the apostrophe is not frequently used.

§ 140. We read: "In the condition of a conditional sentence, the conjunction *om* if, may be omitted." It should be added that this can be done only when the conditional clause begins the sentence. But this is not to be applied also to the similar omission in hypothetical comparisons (*Du kommer, som vore du kallad.*).

§§ 139, 140. The word-order of the verb has in my grammar been presented in the usual way, running parallel also to the customary method of presentation in grammars of German. The chief matter that needs comment in Swedish is the so-called inversion, which in Swedish (as in German) is far more common than it is in English. In my colleague Professor Curme's *First German Grammar* the word-order of the verb is presented quite differently and without the necessity of using the word inversion. If we apply the system there used to Swedish we could present Swedish verb-order about as follows: "The finite form of the verb occupies either the first or the second place in the sentence. (A) It stands in the first place (a) in questions (unless the subject is an interrogative word or is modified by an interrogative word and unless the question contains *männe* or *ju*), (b) with the imperative, when the subject is expressed, (c) in wishes of certain types, (d) in conditional clauses beginning a sentence, when *om* is not expressed, and in clauses of hypothetical comparison, when *om* is not expressed. (B) The finite form of the verb stands in the second place in both principal and subordinate clauses of declarative sentences, and in other cases not included under A. The subject normally stands in the first place in the sentence, but any part of the predicate except the finite form of the verb may

be put in the first place, in which case the subject is placed directly after the verb; the verb must stand in the second place. In subordinate clauses it is not common to put any part of the predicate before the finite form of the verb, and therefore the subject almost always stands before the verb in these." This method of presentation appeals to me as being in some ways better than the usual one, and I have given it here, in the event that some teacher may prefer it and may be able to give students some real feeling for the matter involved, rather than merely the mechanical rule.

§ 148. I state pretty fully in § 147 when the definite form of the adjective is used, and in § 148 we read: "In all other cases the indefinite form is used with attributive adjectives. Predicate adjectives are always put in the indefinite form." Students, in my experience, usually ask which the "other cases" are. It might therefore be added in the former sentence: "i. e., when there is no article, an indefinite article, an indefinite pronoun, or an interrogative pronoun. An example of the latter (it is a little difficult to construe examples that are not awkward) is: ". . . jag kan icke säga vilken underlig drömmande stämning som kunde betaga mig" (Per Hallström, *Levande dikt*, p. 47). But I think it important to emphasize the fundamental distinction, that of the definite or indefinite meaning of the *noun*, for which an unerring *feeling* should be developed; this is pedagogically far better than the learning of the list given in § 147 or of that here proposed for § 148. The use in Swedish of the terms "definite" and "indefinite" form of the adjective therefore suggests the fundamental principle, which the names "strong" and "weak," used in German, where the conditions are different, would not do.

§ 181. In suggesting to the student that the supine be derived from the past participle, it is not unknown to me that intransitive cursive verbs have no past participle (see § 240, note 1), though they do have a supine.

§ 201, note 1. Instead of "*i*," read "short *i*." Further, omit "*giva* and." The sentence then reads: "The vowel of the supine of all regular strong verbs is the same as that of the infinitive, except that it is changed to *u* in all verbs having in the infinitive short *i*, or *y* or *ä* (except in *äta*)."

§ 208, note 2. It might be advantageous, in speaking of the vowel of the subjunctive in *funne* (cf. *fann*, *funno*), to call attention to the English subjunctive "were" (cf. "was," "were").

§ 261, 2. I have found an example of the rather rare use of *komma att* (= "happen to") in the present tense in Signe Taube's *Gunnar Wennerberg*, Vol. I, p. 71: "Jag kommer att tänka på något gammalt florentinskt konstnärporträtt när jag nu i tankarna frammanar hans gestalt."

§ 264, note 9. An example of the use of the form *själv* with a neuter noun, outside of the phrases *av (för) sig själv* is: "Min fader, kunde jag icke komma på annat sätt till Romeo, skulle jag ha mod att vandra utan fruktan genom helvetet själv." (Per Hallström, *Levande dikt*).

§ 279. I state: "This pronoun (*den*, used as a relative) is rare as indirect object." I have a definite impression that in my recent reading of Swedish books I have repeatedly seen the relative *den* used in the relation of an indirect object, that is, that this use is not so rare as the statement in my grammar (based in this case, if I remember correctly, on *Svenska Akademiens ordbok*) would lead one to believe. I shall quote here one of the sentences I have recent-

ly noted down that illustrate the point: ". . . åtskilliga satser, dem jag skulle vilja giva en efter min mening lyckligare formulering" (Sylwan, *Studier i svensk värs*, p. 6).

Appendix V. Of the books mentioned in the bibliography as being in press or in preparation, my *Swedish Phonology* (Chicago, 1915) and my edition of Runeberg's *Fänrik Ståls sägner* (Rock Island, 1915) have now appeared. Olof Östergren's Swedish-Swedish dictionary, entitled *Nusvensk ordbok*, has begun to appear, three numbers, or about one-eighth of the whole work, already having been issued. For a review of this most commendable book, see an earlier number of these *Publications of the S. A. S. S.* The publisher is Wahlström och Widstrand, Stockholm. Of other works mentioned in the bibliography as being in process of publication, various numbers have appeared. Several additions should be made to the list of text-editions published and in preparation, but it will suffice to refer the reader for the titles of these to notes and reviews that have appeared in this publication since the middle of 1914.

In the Vocabulary, it should be indicated under the word *pronomen* that *e* changes to *i* in forming the plural with *-er*: *pronominer*. Under the word "English" there should be given details corresponding to those given under "Swedish." Under "spread" the word "intransitive" should be inserted after the semicolon. Under "into," add *i* as a definition.

I have noted a few misprints of various kinds, but there is no need of calling attention to any of them here, as they do not affect the understanding of the passages concerned.

I shall at all times be grateful to users of my grammar, as of my other textbooks, for criticisms and suggestions of all kinds. To those who have given me such in the past, especially to Professor Egge of Pullman, Washington, it may not be out of place for me to express my gratitude here.

A. LOUIS ELMQUIST.